



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

February 21, 2007

Applicants: Yutaka MIYAMOTO et al

For: BUTT WELDING APPARATUS AND BUTT WELDING METHOD

Serial No.: 10/523 579 Group: 1725

Confirmation No.: 1367

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

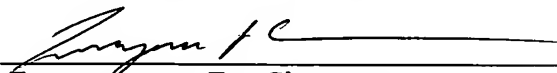
Sir:

In response to the Patent Office Action dated
November 21, 2006, Applicants respectfully request
reconsideration.

(Please see following pages.)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class
mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for
Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on February 21, 2007.


Terryence F. Chapman